

## HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 277

By Brooks H

A RESOLUTION to commend Taiwan, a sister-state of the State of Tennessee since 1980, on her contributions to the global economy and her promotion of freedom, democracy, and universal health worldwide.

WHEREAS, the Republic of China (Taiwan) and the United States are long standing friends and allies, both dearly cherishing the shared values of freedom, democracy, and universal health; and

WHEREAS, Taiwan, with the world's fourth largest foreign reserve of USD 292.68 billion, imports American merchandise worth USD 26 billion annually, of which USD 278 million comes from the State of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, the year 2009 marks the thirtieth anniversary of the Taiwan Relations Act, which laid the foundation for continued commercial, cultural, and other relations between the United States of America and the Republic of China (Taiwan), a sister-state of the State of Tennessee since 1980; and

WHEREAS, Taiwan, as a democracy who saw her second peaceful transition of power in the March 2008 presidential election and as a global leading provider and manufacturer of information technology, has long committed herself to advancing peaceful prosperity, stability, and rapprochement in the Asian Pacific region and worldwide; and

WHEREAS, Taiwan, as a willing member of the international community, has been one of the most active contributors in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, the Southeast Asian Tsunami, and other global calamities so as to uphold the universal principals of the World Health Organization; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby affirm the sister-state relationship between Taiwan and the State of Tennessee and support Taiwan's efforts at joining in a free trade agreement with the United States and the World Health Organization so as to achieve a further peaceful, prosperous, and healthy global community.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Mr. Larry Tseng, Director General of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Atlanta, Georgia.